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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Arguello et al.

Atty. Docket No.: 028979-0 103

Prior Appl. No.: 09/077,615

Date: July 24, 2001

Prior Appl. Filing Date: October 23, 1998

Group Art Unit: 1655

Examiner: J. Einsmann

For: **METHODS FOR SEPARATING AND/OR IDENTIFYING DNA  
MOLECULES**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box CPA  
Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is a Preliminary Amendment filed with a Continuation Application for the above-captioned application. It is requested that this preliminary amendment be entered after the application has been accorded a filing date and been assigned a serial number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fee submitted or credit any overpayment in such fee to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. For purposes of charging said Deposit Account, a duplicate copy of this amendment is enclosed.

**AMENDMENTS**

After the title, please insert:

D1 --This application is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 09/077,615 filed on October 23, 1998, now abandoned.--

Please cancel claims 39-54.

Please add the following new claims:

5.(New) A method for identifying a DNA molecule comprising: